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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2107

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**THE SUV TAX LOOPHOLE LIVES –
POETIC JUSTICE SUGGESTS
THIS ENERGY BILL SHOULD DIE**

Dear Colleague:

Among the many outrageous decisions that occurred last night during the Conference Committee consideration of the Energy bill (HR 6), one was so special that it inspired me to set it to verse. The Senate had wisely decided to abandon the obscene and grotesque \$100,000 subsidy for the purchase of Humvees and other gas guzzling SUVs when it approved an amendment by Senator Nickels to close this tax loophole. The House only had to accept the Senate position to be rid of this abomination. Unfortunately, the House conferees voted on party lines to keep it! Thus, a little poetry:

“A Taxpayer’s Lament,” or “Why am I Paying for Other People’s Humvees?”

I don’t mind paying taxes, for energy and such
As long as I don’t have to pay very much,
And as long as I don’t end up subsidizing trucks
Called “Humvee Ones” and “Humvee 2s” for a hundred thousand bucks!
They don’t fit in a parking space; they guzzle gas like a hog,
And they leave our children gasping for air turned in to smog.
I’m not for banning Humvees—some people think they’re cool.
But subsidizing this luxury treats taxpayers like a fool.
With our soldiers now in Baghdad fighting for the oil
Wasting gasoline this way just makes my blood boil.
Voting for this subsidy is impossible to defend.
All we want to know out here is when will this end?

Once the House voted to keep the \$100,000 Humvee subsidy, the Senate Republicans accepted the decision so that the bill could be voted on today. I believe this is emblematic of what makes this Energy Bill so appalling, and will be voting against it. I urge you to do the same.

Sincerely,
/s
Edward Markey